



1300 I Street, N.W., Suite 400 West
Washington, DC 20005

Donald C. Brittingham
Director – Wireless/Spectrum Policy

October 14, 2004

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: *Ex Parte* Presentation
 WT Docket No. 03-103; “Air-Ground Telecommunications Services”**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 13, 2004, representatives of Verizon Airfone (“Airfone”) joined representatives of AirCell, Boeing, Space Data, and Nextel in a meeting with FCC staff to discuss the Commission’s pending rulemaking on the Air-to-Ground (“ATG”) service. A copy of Airfone’s presentation and a list of the participants in the meeting are attached.

In this meeting, Verizon Airfone stressed the importance of implementing a regulatory regime that would facilitate the provision of high quality, highly reliable, broadband ATG services in the 800 MHz band. The Commission can achieve this goal by modifying its rules applicable to ATG use of the 800 MHz band and holding a competitive auction that would make available flexible, exclusive licenses that provide sufficient, unencumbered spectrum to deliver broadband. In contrast to this flexible, pro-competitive approach, band sharing schemes proposed by AirCell and Boeing would create a significant risk of interference and impede delivery of a high-quality broadband service.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(2) of the Commission’s Rules, an electronic copy of this letter is being filed for inclusion in the above-referenced docket.

Sincerely,

/s/ Donald C. Brittingham
Donald C. Brittingham

Attachments

cc: (All FCC participants on attached list)

WT Docket 03-103; Verizon Airfone Meeting with FCC on October 13, 2004

List of Attendees

Peter Tenhula, WTB
Gregory Vadas, WTB
David Furth, WTB
Richard Arsenault, Mobility Division, WTB
Guy Benson, Mobility Division, WTB
Tom Derenge, Mobility Division, WTB
Kathy Harris, Mobility Division, WTB
Jay Jackson, Mobility Division, WTB
Roger Noel, Mobility Division, WTB
Ed Thomas, Chief, OET
Julius Knapp, OET
Jim Schlichting, OET
Ron Chase, OET
Ira Keltz, OET
Ahmed Lahjouji, OET
Salomon Satche, OET
George Sharp, OET

Don Brittingham, Verizon
Robert Combs, Director, Verizon Airfone
Jay Padgett, Telcordia Technologies (on behalf of Airfone)
Jack Blumenstein, AirCell
Anand K. Chari, AirCell
Michele Farquhar, Hogan & Hartson (on behalf of AirCell)
Edward Laase, Boeing
Carlos Nalda, Boeing
Howard Symons, Mintz Levin (on behalf of AirCell)
Eric Frische, Space Data
Cheryl Tritt, Morrison & Foerster (on behalf of Space Data)
Jennifer Kostyu, Morrison & Foerster (on behalf of Space Data)
Michael Ha, Nextel
Trey Hanbury, Nextel